

I support the proposal of FISTS for licensing in the Amateur Radio Service. The Service is far more than a "hobby", and its "amateur" status is only accurate in that operators serve without compensation.

The citizenry of our nation have become accustomed to "entitlements" to the detriment of the best of what has, in the past, been the American spirit. The preamble to Part 97 of the FCC rules should serve as the guideline for the path of licensing requirements.

I am particularly supportive of terminating the opportunity for multiple "tries" at passing the examination at a single sitting. As a volunteer examiner, I believe a person aspiring to a level of attainment should "attain" rather than relying on "multiple guesses". With the examination pool of questions available to an examination candidate, sufficient preparation should permit passage of the well prepared candidate.

The goal of creating "International Good Will" and providing emergency communications as stated in the preamble of the Part 97 rules, calls for maintaining the Morse code requirement. For many operators of limited economic means--both here and abroad--CW provides an inexpensive, reliable means of communications. These two attributes mandate retention of the Morse code requirement.

I urge the Commission to pay particular attention to the preamble of the Amateur Radio Service Rules as outlined in Part 97. Those words have served us well for over 60 years.

--John Scott, K8YC